

Police Probe Disappearance of Baby From Doctor's Home Here

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SEARCH FOR CLUES ... Investigators yesterday continued a search into cave-like clefts in the Walteria hills for clues of a possible sex-crime. Two ten-year old boys hiking near their homes ran from the hills Sunday to say they had heard a small child scream for help from the desolate spot above. Staff photo.

Walteria Cave Suspected as Sex Crime Site

The picturesque hills over Walteria yesterday became the subject of foreboding and uneasy speculation among families in the south Torrance community after two boys on a Sunday morning hike uncovered a possible kidnapping or criminal molestation attempt there.

Police were called in after Tommy Howard and Leonard Lopez, fifth graders at Walteria school, ran home with an account of what sounded to them like "a man kidnapping a girl."

Pale and breathless, the boys told Tommy's mother, Mrs. T. S. Howard of 24264 Neece avenue, that while climbing through the gulleys, fog-shrouded hills they heard a girl's scream, "Help. I want my daddy," and a gruff admonition to "shut up." The voices emanated from a deep, cave-like crevice in the hills.

Returning to the site with the boys, police found no evidence to substantiate the story. However, bystanders indicated that if there had been a "child molester" at the scene he probably would have fled with the disturbance the boys caused.

Mrs. Howard declared that her son and young Lopez are thoroughly familiar with the Walteria hills, having often hunted fossils and gone on hikes there. Now, they are "too terrified" to go back alone, she said. Mrs. Howard is sure the voices were not "a figment of imagination."

WEATHER

Scattered high cloudiness tonight, November 22, and tomorrow. Considerable fog here and in coastal areas. Temperature high of 75 degrees, with a low of 52.

Churches, Families Prepare To Observe Thanksgiving

EL CAMINO WARRIORS WIND UP GRID YEAR

Following a nation-wide pattern, Torrance was preparing this week for the celebration of Thanksgiving this Thursday by attending church service and preparing for family reunions around the traditional feast table.

The community's 19 churches were scheduling special services on Thanksgiving Day in preparation for the crowds who are expected to attend the mid-week services.

More detailed accounts of the special services as announced by various churches in the community may be found on the Church Page of the first section of this issue.

While easterners made certain that an ample supply of coal was on hand for the national holiday, Torrance residents were mowing lawns and sprucing up front yards in anticipation of family reunions.

Business houses in the area in most cases will close for the day. Remaining open will be some drug stores, beverage houses, and family-owned markets. Most gasoline stations will be open, it was learned.

For the graduates of El Camino College the day will have added significance. The day is Homecoming Day for former students of the local institution of learning.

To celebrate the occasion El Camino's football team tangles with East Los Angeles in the last game of the season for the Warriors.

A highlight of the afternoon's activities at the college will be the dedication of the school's new field and stadium.

Parents Invited To Meet Speech Correctionist

Parents of children with speech difficulties are invited to meet with the school speech consultant during the specialist's visits to various schools throughout the district this week, Dr. J. Heinrich Hull said.

Mrs. E. Beaver, speech correctionist, will be at the following schools during the coming week:

Seaside School—November 22.
Perry Elementary School—November 23.
Torrance High School—November 28.
Walteria Elementary School—November 29.

Sunday Bandit Strikes at Jewelry Plant

The Sunday Bandit, struck again this week-end. This time, victim of the attack was the Salm Manufacturing Co., 1801 Abalone avenue.

Det. Sgt. Percy Bennett, of the Torrance Police Department, said there was "no doubt" but that the same man is involved in this burglary who broke into two local churches last Sunday and one church in mid-October.

W. T. Walker, manager of the local plant, called police Monday morning when he found the plant had been ransacked.

Scattered in colorful profusion lay great quantities of ornamental jewelry, manufactured from abalone shells at the Salm Co. In his search for money, the Sunday Bandit, scoured the plant from one end to the other in vain.

He did escape with a soldering iron, hand drills and other tools.

Entry into the Salm Co. plant was made by prying up one of the windows. Detective Bennett declared. As in two of the three church burglaries, the building was entered during the Sunday afternoon hours, Bennett said.

Herald Resumes Publication On Thursdays

Regular Thursday publication of your Torrance Herald will be resumed next week with the December 1 issue.

The usual deadlines of 6 p.m. Tuesday for classified advertising and the same hour for display advertisements again will be observed, Publisher Grover C. Whyte announced.

Tot's Guardian In House at Time Baby Disappears

BULLETIN

Neighbors of Dr. Kenneth Kinney, whose son was abducted from his crib yesterday afternoon positively identified the alleged kidnapper of the baby as the doctor's estranged wife. The neighbors made the identification from photographs late Monday afternoon.

A statewide search for a mother who is believed to have abducted her own baby from the nursery of her doctor-husband's home on Carson street fanned out from Torrance late yesterday afternoon.

Dr. Kenneth Kinney, a Harbor General Hospital physician, reported to Torrance police that his 10-month-old son, Kenneth Bryant Kinney Jr., was taken from his crib in his home at 2255 Carson street.

The child was under the care of a housekeeper, Mrs. Nell Kennedy, who was washing clothes in another room when the baby disappeared, Dr. Kinney told police.

The doctor, estranged from his wife for the past five months, said that witnesses' description of the alleged abductor tallied with the description of his wife. The witnesses reported that a blue convertible Oldsmobile coupe was seen driving away from the Carson street house about the time the child disappeared.

The wife's mother, Mrs. Winifred F. Robertson of Vallejo, Calif., owns a similar car, Dr. Kinney told police.

License Law Due For Passage at Council Meeting

Final adoption of the proposed revised city business license ordinance is expected at the meeting of the City Council on Tuesday evening, November 22.

At a public hearing of the new law held last Friday evening only minor objections were voiced.

However, official action may be held over until an adjourned meeting of the council to be held on December 6, according to City Hall reports.

Principal change in the new ordinance from the one now in effect applies to non-resident business firms, most of whom will be required to pay a \$50 annual fee. Business firms and individuals who maintain a place of business or whose owners reside in Torrance will continue to be charged \$24 per year, with certain exceptions now in effect. The present \$18 per year fee assessed against wholesalers will be repealed in lieu of the new \$50 charge.

Welcome news to housewives and daytime sleepers will be the provision in the new license ordinance which prohibits peddlers, hawkers, canvassers, and itinerant vendors from making house-to-house calls, unless specifically invited to call by the occupant of the premises. Sales representatives of business houses which maintain a Torrance establishment are exempted from the prohibition.

In response to inquiries at the Friday evening hearing, City Attorney C. Douglass Smith explained that the reason for leveling a higher fee against non-resident business firms is due to

Chamber Group Probes Torrance Parking Problem

What is probably the most concentrated effort to solve the downtown Torrance parking problem taken thus far, was launched this week by Charles T. Rippey, chairman of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce parking committee.

Key to the effort is a nine-point questionnaire which was mailed to some 300 members of the local chamber. Fifty of the forms have already been returned to the chamber; the majority are expected by the end of the month.

Despite the acquisition of off-street parking facilities, parking for shoppers remains one of the most serious problems facing local merchants, Blaine Walker, executive secretary of the local

(Continued on Page 8)



ALL SMILES NOW ... Grinning Tommy Stevens points to bandage covering wound in chest where exploding war souvenir struck him Sunday. —Herald photo.

Near Misses Scored as War Shell Explodes Near Boy

Shot in the chest by a shell from among his dad's war souvenirs, eight-year-old Tommy Stevens is mighty thankful he is alive to enjoy Thanksgiving this week.

Young Tommy and a group of playmates were playing last Sunday morning with a German rifle shell of his father's and decided to throw it into a bonfire.

The shell exploded in the heat of the fire—a fragment striking Tommy in a rib just below the heart. After a five-eighths inch piece of shrapnel was removed from his chest at Harbor General Hospital he was returned home at 2257 West 235th street, by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Stevens.

Now What Do You Suppose ... ?



... Lady viewer moves in only close enough for a quick look. Man crowds in unafraid.

... Little boy has to go up on tip-toes to peer into screen covered barrel.

... Normally curious youngsters move away disinterested while mother lingers.

... Boy ponders the situation. Strange object in the barrel remains a mystery.

... Open barrel offers more temporary interest than does this man's ice cream cone.

... On way home these youngsters find the barrel full of intrigue but not much else.

... Even a police officer approaches mysterious barrel with caution.

... This lady walked past, turned around, and came back for a peek.

NORMAL ... Torrance folks are just about as curious and as fearful of snakes as anyone else, a Torrance Herald reporter-photographer discovered this last week. To record this fact photographically a barrel was placed near the edge of the sidewalk on El Prado street. On one side of the barrel was a sign. The open end was covered only by a wire mesh screen. For what was actually in the barrel see photo on page 8.

A POINT PROVED IN PICTURES